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VIDELA DISCUSSES PAPAL MEDIATION WITH NEWSMEN

PY260250 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0002 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (TELAM)--President Jorge Rafael Videla said that Pope John Paul II's acceptance of the request to be a mediator in the border conflict with Chile "began a new stage of hope" in which there is a return "to the political form of negotiations established in the Puerto Montt Act."

During a press conference held in the conference room of the presidential residence for 40 minutes--from 1645 to 1725--he warned that the principle which established the Atlantic for Argentina and the Pacific for Chile "is absolutely unavoidable and unrenounceable," therefore "we do not close the doors to honorable solutions."

The president briefly summarized some aspects of the negotiations with Chile aimed at overcoming the border conflict, saying that after the meeting held on 12 December 1978 between Foreign Ministers Pastor and Cubillos, negotiations came to "a standstill which created some friction."

He added: "The arrival of Cardinal Samore made possible a request to the pope to act as mediator, therefore the solution to the problem is back to the political form of dialog in bilateral negotiations."

He said that "the Argentine people and government, with calm maturity, have begun a stage of hope, of trusting hope," which will permit the Argentine people "to be able [words indistinct] to find themselves with a mature Argentina."

Expanding on this concept, Videla said that this new realization "has nothing to do with whether there is a warlike or peaceful Argentina, but rather an Argentina which wants to live in peace and accepts mediation for a solution to the conflict with Chile with calm maturity, which is the synthesis and great lesson at this time."

Videla said: "We have again established, and this is the important thing, the road to conversation, dialog, bilateral negotiation, the political means to find a solution to the border conflict."

He said that the mediation of John Paul II "will not be one of impositions but will help the parties find an agreement to the conflict." He emphasized that "the important thing is that we have returned to the system of negotiations established in the Puerto Montt Act" signed with the Chilean president on 20 February 1978.

"No Argentine, much less the soldiers of our fatherland, should feel frustrated. There has been no frustration because Argentina adopted the necessary measures for preserving its territory," he said, terming as a "victory" the fact of having carried out the task of defending [Argentine] sovereignty, "the having had a weapon at the ready, having had a finger on the trigger and not firing."

He also referred to the mechanisms of the new stage of negotiations, indicating that he did not know how long Pope John Paul would take to establish the overall system for mediation, although he warned that "one must be cautious in the matter of time."

The president explained that one of the first steps to be taken by the parties in litigation is that of submitting to the Vatican all the necessary documentation and background data in order to help in the papal mediation task.

Regarding the request for mediation in itself, he recalled that "the principal difficulties consisted of not only naming a mediator but basically the need for obtaining sufficient guarantees that the Argentine position was clearly understood.

"We could not make a leap into the dark without knowing how Argentina's position would be interpreted," the president said, concluding that "thanks to the good offices of the papal delegate our position was explained and, we are perfectly sure, was fully understood by Cardinal Samore."

NEW AIR FORCE COMMANDER INSTALLED ON 24 JAN

Graffigna Promoted

PY251625 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1403 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpt] Cordoba, 24 Jan (TELAM)--The commander in chief of the air force, Lt Gen Orlando Ramon Agosti, went into retirement today and Maj Gen Omar Domingo Graffigna became the new commander in chief during a ceremony which began at 0930 at the air force military academy in this city. General Agosti was received by the air force personnel commander, Maj Gen Jesus Orlando Capellini, and then reviewed the troops which were in formation there. The national anthem was played.

The outgoing commander then delivered a speech in which he emphasized that "the national reorganization process will be irreversible, not because of the permanence of its men, but because of the continuity of its principles."

The decree promoting Maj Gen Omar Graffigna to the rank of Lieutenant General, and therefore commander in chief of the instituion, was then read and he was awarded the insignias corresponding to the highest rank in the air force. Having already assumed his new post, General Graffigna spoke to the authorities present and to the military personnel gathered at the air force academy. He emphasized the importance and meaning of his appointment and promised to continue with the work carried out by his predecessor.

Remarks by Graffigna

PY251811 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1417 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpts] Cordoba, 25 Jan (TELAM)--The commander in chief of the air force, Lt Gen Omar Domingo Ruben Graffigna, in assuming his new post, stated: "I solemnly promise to continue serving with the same basic devotion to three goals: first, to guard the country's sacred interests above sectorial interests or the welfare of individuals; second, to continue strengthening the monolithic unity of the armed forces; and third, to fully achieve the goals and objectives of the national reorganization process."

His remarks were: "For a military man, this moment is the beginning of the most important phase of his professional life. For me, it is the culmination of a desire I have had since I was very young and in this beloved academy. It is fulfilled today while assuming the highest leadership of the Argentine Air Force in this very place, so full of pleasant memories.

"It is at a time like this that a man cannot help but express his truth and his intimate thoughts, even though it may be only a concise synthesis, and pledge before God, his country and his institution to carry out his duties loyally.

"I am firmly convinced that these goals and these ideals are the basis for the common good of Argentines, their welfare and their security. And I am also convinced that while we practice these ideals with loyalty and conviction, no danger, either internal or external, can cause us to fail in everything we promised ourselves on 24 March 1976.

"For this reason I claim and request your best cooperation and understanding and full confidence in the commander in chief, and I ask God for His divine guidance and protection."

NEW AIR FORCE COMMANDER SWORN IN AS JUNTA MEMBER

PY260004 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2210 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (TELAM)--Lt Gen Omar Domingo Ruben Graffigna, the new air force commander, was sworn in at 1910 as a member of the military junta during a ceremony held in the Blue Room of the Congress building.

PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER TO ASSUME DUTIES 9 FEBRUARY

PY241735 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1521 GMT 24 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jan (NA)--Mendoza democratic political leader Francisco Moyano today announced that on 9 February he will officially assume his duties as adviser to the president of the nation, Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla (ret).

The future presidential adviser made a statement at Ezeiza International Airport just before leaving for Bogota. There he will bid farewell to the Colombian Government and the accredited diplomatic corp before he is relieved of his duties as Argentine ambassador to that country.

Moyano, who will return on 6 February, did not want to comment on the present political-institutional situation, although he did promise to do so once he assumes his new post of adviser.

BRIEFS

OIL IMPORTS REDUCED--Buenos Aires, 22 Jan (TELAM)--Crude oil imports decreased significantly in 1978 and it is believed that they will be reduced even further in 1979, while Government Oil Deposits' [YPF] exports had a marked surge with reference to prior years. According to information released today by YPF, only 2,538,000 cu m of crude were imported in 1978 as compared to 3,491,000 in 1977, and it is believed that in 1979 crude imports will amount to 2,105,000 cu m. Meanwhile, YPF exported $34,990,000 worth of byproducts, as compared to $13,090,000 in 1977. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2320 GMT 22 Jan 79 PY]

ANTIMONY PLANT--San Salvador de Jujuy, 22 Jan (TELAM)--Provincial Mining, Industry and Trade Secretary Benjamin Altea has visited the antimony mine located near Coyaguayama, 160 km west of this capital, where the first Argentine antimony plant will be installed. The mine is being operated by Puna Mining Company. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1820 GMT 21 Jan 79 PY]

RADIO LINK STATION--The National Telecommunications Enterprise (ENTEL) began the installation of a radio link station [caseta de radioenlace] in Estacion Mazan, La Rioja Province. There are plans to install 10 more radio link stations for the microwave system in this province. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Jan 79 p 4 PY]

GOVERNMENT EXPELS CHILEANS ON ESPIONAGE CHARGES

PY251749 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1554 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 25 Jan (LATIN)--It was officially reported here today that the Bolivian Government has expelled an unspecified number of Chilean citizens involved in espionage activities. Sources at the Bolivian Foreign Ministry confirmed a brief piece of news released last night by Foreign Minister Raul Botelho Gonsalves.

The Bolivian foreign minister reported during a press conference that Chilean citizens had been trying to gain possession of secret Bolivian documents, and added that they had been ordered to leave the country. The foreign minister did not provide information as to the number and identity of the expelled Chileans.

This incident is being reported while Bolivia is attentively following the development of a similar charge made by Peru against Chile--an affair which resulted in the execution of a Peruvian non-commissioned officer and withdrawal of the Chilean ambassador in Lima, Francisco Bulnes.

In the past 2 months there have been a number of reports of Chilean espionage in Bolivia. A former member of the Congress, Anibal Aguilar Penarrieta, has stated publicly that an intelligence network of the neighboring country has been operating in Bolivia for some years, especially in the eastern department of Santa Cruz. Aguilar Penarrieta, who is also a former minister, brought a criminal suit before the Supreme Court of Justice against former Presidents Hugo Banzer Suarez and Juan Pereda Asbun, both of whom are generals of the armed forces, charging them, among other things, with cooperating in alleged Chilean espionage.

In an interview granted to LATIN last December, the Santa Cruz prefect, Col Miguel Ayoroa Montano, admitted having information on such activities in this department capital 900 km southeast of La Paz, but he added that everything (espionage) is under the control of state security services.

Sources queried here today regarding the scope of Foreign Minister Botelho Gonsalves' report indicated that an investigation is going on but declined to provide further details.

VILLALPANDO-LINKED GROUP SELECTS BANZER AS REPRESENTATIVE

PY260154 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpts] The leaders of the Nationalist Democratic Trend [Corriente Nacionalista Democratica--CND] decided during their first meeting to name former President Hugo Banzer as their highest representative and began working to take part in the forthcoming July elections.

The CND has been working for 2 months and is now studying various aspects of the national situation. The former minister of defense, army commander and member of a triumvirate which held power for 2 hours on the night of 21 July 1978, Gen Alfonso Villalpando, explained the situation.

[Begin Villalpando recording] I would first like to explain to Radio Panamericana and public opinion that General Banzer has been proclaimed in Santa Cruz as the highest leader of nationalism. The office I represent is now part of this great plan called the CND. [end recording]

As General Banzer has been named the leader of the CND, reporters asked General Villalpando if Banzer will be proclaimed presidential candidate by the CND.

[Begin Villalpando recording] Not yet. We will have to decide this at the appropriate time, at a meeting with the highest leaders. We still have not made a decision regarding a candidate. [end recording]

FSB FACTION PROTESTS ELECTORAL COURT APPOINTMENTS

PY241505 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Text] The Mario Gutierrez sector of the Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB] has sent a letter to the president of the military government junta arguing against the appointment of two members of the National Electoral Court. Enrique Acha Alvarez, secretary general of the party, maintains in his letter to Gen David Padilla that the two appointments have caused an upheaval in the FSB. The first case refers to the appointment of the president of the National Electoral Court [passage indistinct]. Although Acha Alvarez does not give any name, it is obvious that he is referring to Marcelo Cespedes Gutierrez.

The second case refers to the appointment as Electoral Court member of the former prosecutor who took it upon himself to arrange the investigation of the murder of (Oscar Vilceda), head and founder of the FSB.

The letter says that both cases are irritating and would be provocative if it were (?not) the case of a government such as yours in whose moral integrity and promise to preside over clean election the FSB still believes, Acha Alvarez adds. The case of the former prosecutor refers to Carlos Tovar Guslaft. The Mario Gutierrez section of the FSB concludes by requesting that the president amend those errors to safeguard the image of the armed forces.

PADILLA ARANCIBIA DISCUSSES WAGES, INFLATIONARY SPIRAL

PY260146 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpts] The government of the military junta is studying the possibility of increasing some taxes in order to solve in some way the serious economic crisis the country is experiencing, said Gen David Padilla Arancibia in Cochabamba where he met with military officers and government officials of Cochabamba Department.

Just before returning to La Paz at noon today, General Padilla said that from the humane point of view there is a need to increase the wages of workers but that this would create an inflationary spiral.

The president of the military junta said that a greater burden on the Bolivian people will be prevented but that there is a need to carry out necessary corrections in order to improve the economic situation.

The chief of state emphasized that the new constitutional government which will assume office on 6 August 1979 will have to make the final decisions for solving the country's economic problems. With regard to the wage increases requested by several union sectors of the country, he said that, humanly speaking, these increases should be approved but that this would create a national economic imbalance. He reiterated that the new constitutional government will have to assume this responsibility. He recognized that the workers have this right but that it is not possible to solve in a few months what has not been accomplished in many years.

INVESTMENT, TRADE FIGURES FOR 1979 REPORTED

PY231703 La Paz Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0926 GMT 23 Jan 79 PY

[Text] The 1979 operations plan has set Bolivia's investments for this year at 20.298 billion Bolivian pesos. The 1979 report also states that the foreign debt will total approximately 2.25 billion pesos. Exports will reach 838 million and imports will total 1.099 billion Bolivian pesos.

The national government's revenue will total 11 billion pesos while expenditures should reach 12.6 billion pesos. The growth rate of the gross domestic product will reach 6 percent.

Of the total investment figure of 20.298 billion Bolivian pesos, the agricultural sector will receive 1.852 billion, the mining sector 1.205 billion, hydrocarbons 2.126 billion, industry 3.308 billion, construction, 978 billion, energy, 1.144 billion, transportation and communications, 4.597 billion, commerce and finance 593 million, the national government 3.057 billion, housing 696 million, and various other sectors will receive investments totaling 598 million Bolivian pesos.

BRIEFS

CNES RECESSED--The Bolivian Government has ordered the recess of the National Council of Higher Education [CNES] for a period of 60 days. Planning and Coordination Minister Gary Prado Salmon stated that an in-depth analysis of the problem which had cropped up between university officials and the CNES conducted by his minitry showed that "the members of this council had not fulfilled their role in the reorganization of the charter for higher education." [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 20 Jan 79 p 12 PY]

SIMONSEN ANNOUNCES CONFORMITY WITH GATT GUIDELINES

FY251905 Paris AFP in Spanish 1746 GMT 25 Jan 79 FY

[Text] Brasilia, 25 Jan (AFP)--Finance Minister Henrique Simonsen announced here last night that the Brazilian Government will accelerate minidevaluations of the cruzeiro and will progressively reduce, between 1979 and 1983, its subsidies to exports and will abolish the advance deposit [deposito previo] which discourages imports.

The reforms are intended to put the Brazilian policy in agreement with the guidelines of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT], which will facilitate trade negotiations between Brazil and such countries as the United States.

In this and subsequent years the cruzeiro will be subject to an additional 4.5-percent devaluation, apart from the normal rate of devaluation with relation to the dollar which is a result of the Brazilian Government's policy of minidevaluations.

In 1978 the cruzeiro was devalued by a little more than 30 percent in relation to the dollar. In the framework of this small reform, as Simonsen called it, the cruzeiro was devalued by 2.5 percent on Wednesday, and the dollar exchange rate reached 21.8 cruzeiros.

State subsidies granted by the government for the export of manufactured products were reduced by 10 percent as of today and will be progressively reduced at a rate of 5 percent per quarter during the next few years and will thus have disappeared by 30 June 1983.

In the same manner, the advance deposit for imports (amounting to the total cost of the goods to be imported) was reduced by 10 percent and will be totally eliminated in 1983.

Officials have stated that they are very much concerned over the growing consumption of petroleum products in the country, precisely at a time when the cessation of petroleum imports from Iran has posed supply problems. Some newspapers reported today that the Brazilian Government is drawing up a plan for gasoline rationing, but that report has not been officially confirmed.

O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO URGES STRICT ENERGY POLICY

FY251643 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Jan 79 p 3 FY

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "Energy Question Growing Worse"]

[Summary] According to recent PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] studies, the consumption of oil by-products in 1978 increased by 9.7 percent, while production decreased by 0.2 percent. Oil imports totaled more than $4 billion and will continue at the level of $4.5 billion for the next 3 to 5 years, even when new oil wells are expected to go into production, mostly in the promising Campos Basin.

"The situation is worrisome because it is caused by the combined action of two serious factors: the unbridled increase in comsumption--the largest in the world, including the industrialized countries--and the drop in production. As for the first factor, there is no possibility of improvement in the offing unless the new government completely reformulates an energy policy by adopting practical measures to encourage greater consumption of other kinds of energy--hydroelectric, for instance--in place of oil products.

And since this replacement will call for additional investments by enterprises, the government must provide a large incentive for them to do so. So far, neither the investments nor the incentives have been very significant. On the contrary, the government continues to maintain a senseless policy of subsidizing fuel oil, which is largely responsible for the increase in consumption (30 percent of the total in 1978), while unnecessarily raising electricity rates, thus widening the price differential between the two alternate energy sources for industrial use."

Gasoline accounted for 24.8 percent of total consumption in 1978 and diesel oil, which is also heavily subsidized by the government, for 26 percent. Oil consumption has been steadily rising and should reach 1 million barrels per day in the not-too-distant future, while production is not expected to increase enough to contribute much toward satisfying our needs. The Campos Basin, which represents our best hope, will only produce 45,000 barrels per day when fully operational.

"There are three additional factors contributing to this worrisome situation: our growing imports from the Middle East, to which we export little, thus sapping all efforts to even up our trade balance since by September 1978 our imports from the Middle East totaled $2.6 billion and our exports only $269 million; the price increase adopted by OPEC which could have been absorbed easily if there had been no crisis in Iran; and the transportation cost which adds another $300 million to our oil accounts. In fact, we are facing a delicate situation which will demand the adoption of a strict energy policy by the new government without delay, because the current government--nobody knows why--never really tried to adopt one, perhaps because of the shortage of experts at the main decision-making levels."

PARANA DAMS DISCUSSED WITH PARAGUAYAN ENVOY

PY260059 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0014 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 25 Jan (LATIN)--Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira remarked today that he would not feel disappointed if an agreement is not reached between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay on the question of harmonization of the Itaipu and Corpus hydroelectric dams.

This remark was made to reporters after Paraguayan Ambassador to Brasilia Jose Antonio Moreno Ruffinelli had paid him a visit. Luis Felipe Lampreia, official Foreign Ministry spokesman, indicated that the Paraguayan diplomat had a meeting of an informative nature with Silveira.

He also indicated that the topic of the tripartite talks was touched upon but no decision was reached during the meeting because the Paraguayan ambassador was only making a courtesy visit. Moreno Ruffinelli returned recently to Brasilia after vacationing in Paraguay.

In remarks to reporters, Silveira said that during the tripartite talks he had always defended the nation's interest and that "an excellent outcome" would be that of reaching an agreement on the Parana River dams.

ECUMENICAL CENTER CLAIMS REPRESSION OF CHURCH

PY251730 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Planalto Palace spokesman Col Rubem Ludwig stated yesterday that the government has done nothing against the church, with which it has always tried to maintain the best possible relations. [paragraph continues]

ETCHEBERRY SAYS TOWNLEY'S REMARKS CONTRADICTORY

PY260103 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Alfredo Etcheberry has asked for copies of Townley's remarks made in the United States. Lawyer Etcheberry, representative of the U.S. Government, received from the Supreme Court photocopies of Michael Townley's remarks made in Washington to FBI officials.

The version given in Washington by the perpetrator of Orlando Letelier's murder substantially differs from those released on 19 March last year.

In addition, Townley's remarks, published by a morning paper in which he tells about his activities in Chile and in the United States, Mexico and some European countries, caused some surprise. These remarks were part of a secret summary prepared by Gen Hector Orozco on falsification of official passports. General Orozco, who acts as ad hoc state attorney, stated that that newspaper is subject to punishment for the publication of secret documents.

Etcheberry stated, however, that he has asked for the text of Townley's remarks made in the United States to establish the contradictions committed by the detainee and the fundamental differences between the two statements.

Although the lawyers who are representing the United States give little importance to this petition, it is supposed that Etcheberry will use these documents as part of his request for extradition of the three Chilean officers.

GOVERNMENT DENIES SECRET DEAL WITH U.S. ON EXTRADITION

PY252015 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1828 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 25 Jan (LATIN)--A government spokesman today denied the existence of a secret agreement between Chile and the United States to avoid the extradition of three officers of the Chilean Army allegedly involved in the murder of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, which took place in Washington in 1976. "The rumor is totally false. The extradition process is in the hands of the judicial branch which in Chile is completely independent, and therefore there cannot exist an agreement of this kind," the spokesman said.

According to a report from Washington published in Santiago, the agreement would imply that in the event Gen Manuel Contreras (ret), Col Pedro Espinoza and Capt Armando Fernandez are found guilty, they would be tried in Chile. This is possible, given the existence of an extradition treaty between Chile and the United States since 1902.

According to the rumor, however, the statement made by Michael Townley in the trial being carried out in Washington on the attacks carried out in Argentina and Italy [against Chilean leftist figures] would not be mentioned in the trial.

CUBILLOS VOICES FAITH IN POPE'S MEDIATION

PY251933 Paris AFP in Spanish 1720 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 25 Jan (AFP)--Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos stated here today that Chile has full confidence in the mediation of Pope John Paul II in overcoming the southern border conflict with Argentina.

The minister termed the pope's decision, announced yesterday, an act of courage, and expressed hope that a climate of relaxation will prevail between Chile and Argentina.

In the process of mediation we will strongly defend our point of view, based on the law and on justice, he said.

We have full confidence that his holiness will help us fund a peaceful solution where the principles of justice are respected, the Chilean foreign minister added.

According to Cubillos, Chile is gradually complying with its commitment to demilitarize the border zones, as requested by Cardinal Antonio Samore, the Vatican envoy, during the visit which preceded the agreement to mediate.

EL MERCURIO COMMENTS ON EXPULSION OF AMBASSADOR TO LIMA

PY251343 Paris AFP in Spanish 0254 GMT 24 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 24 Jan (AFP)--The newspaper EL MERCURIO stated today that relations between Chile and Peru have experienced a serious deterioration as a result of the unsucessful maritime negotiations with Bolivia. In its Thursday edition, EL MERCURIO discussed the Chilean-Peruvian crisis which was unleashed on Saturday after Francisco Bulnes, Chilean ambassador to Lima, was declared persona non grata by the Peruvian Government on charges of espionage activities.

The newspaper stated that in 2 1/2 years Ambassador Bulnes has contributed greatly to the diplomatic rapprochement between the two countries. EL MERCURIO added, however, that "unfortunate events have damaged these good relations."

The newspaper noted that the Chilean Government has taken the necessary measures to punish those responsible for these incidents and that in addition it has submitted the proper explanations to Peru. Regarding Ambassador Bulnes' expulsion, EL MERCURIO said that this is an unusual measure.

The newspaper added: In times past, more than one Latin American military attache has been caught in flagrant acts of espionage, but this did not cause the withdrawal or expulsion of ambassadors or even less a press campaign to discredit and issue hostile statements. EL MERCURIO noted that this incident is being used as a pretext to unleash a virulent anti-Chilean campaign in Peru.

NATION'S FOREIGN DEBT REACHES $6.5 BILLION

PY241759 Paris AFP in Spanish 1639 GMT 24 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 24 Jan (AFP)--The Central Bank reported today that Chile's foreign debt increased by 21.4 percent in 1978 and totaled $6.5 billion. Central Bank President Alvaro Bardon explained that this increase is because of the new policy of strengthening reserves. He said: The level of a country's debt does not matter if funds are well invested and generate sufficient resources to pay interest and installments.

According to official reports in 1978, Chile received credits for $1.5 billion from international organizations, most of them private banks. The foreign debt will be paid in the next 9 years. According to plans, Chile will pay $929 million in 1979.

PRESIDENT MEETS PRESS, DISCUSSES VARIETY OF TOPICS

PA251638 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] The president of the republic has rejected the possibility of a ministerial crisis and has stressed the Conservative Party's loyalty toward and cooperation with his government.

At a special ceremony hosted last night by the Colombian Democratic Federation, President Turbay conducted a broad dialog with the newsmen of this radio station and those of other communications media.

President Turbay said that the Colombian Armed Forces are the most professional in Latin America. He also commented on the recent statements made by several Colombian bishops. He specifically referred to a recent statement by Pereira Bishop Dario (Castelnuovo), who said that at present the military forces are advancing immoderately within the framework of Colombian legislation. According to President Turbay, in spite of this (?thrashing) by the bishops--specifically Monsignor Pavio and [word indistinct] Hoyos--the possibility that a coup might occur can be totally discarded.

President Turbay then commented on basic aspects of national activity and, in connection with the shortage problem, said that one of the bills to be submitted to the special congressional sessions concerns a consumer statute under which more specific penal sanctions will be demanded in order to prevent speculation from becoming an economic (?burden) and to have it duly punished.

Commenting on his relations with the various political sectors and other movements which participate in Colombian activities, the president remarked that at present he has [words indistinct].

Regarding the Liberal Party's policy he said: At this point I neither (?participate) nor am I interested in speaking about Liberal policies, as I prefer to discuss the country's problems.

Concerning his relations with former President Lopez Michelsen, he said they are excellent [words indistinct].

Further on, President Turbay committed himself once again by affirming that he hopes to totally eradicate the [illegible]g traffic problem here in Colombia.

On the subject of the specific works he has offered Colombia, such as the Bogota-Medellin road, President Turbay said that he hopes to go to and return from Medellin by road before the end of his administration. Regarding the subway, the president joked about the way in which [words indistinct] in that direction and said that the people of Bogota can rest assured that the present administration will resolve Bogota's mass transportation problems. Asked again about the possibility of constructing the subway, President Turbay responded: I think the subway can be constructed. Among other things, there already exist precedents in connection with the subway. Just see how the M-19 has begun the [word indistinct].

Elsewhere in his dialog with the newsmen, the president noted that the Conservative Party's activity against the government is being adequately fulfilled within a framework of total loyalty.

The chief of state added that other military operations are currently underway, making it necessary to stress the way in which subversion is being controlled.

When a newsman asked him if a republican president does not find it very troublesome not to have any opposition, he responded: I do not have any opposition, but I do have subversion.

Fortunately, we are now controlling it. On the subject of subversion Dr Turbay Ayala also commented that although opposition does not exist, there is steady subversion in the country. Asked if this subversion is very strong, the president responded: Subversion may be very strong but the government is even stronger.

In his dialog with the newsmen, President Turbay sounded very pleased with the way his ministerial cabinet is working. According to him there is there is true national representation.

When asked about the Colombian newspapers' behavior, he said that he is very happy with the way in which the newspapers are behaving. I respect newspapers, he added.

TURBAY AYALA PRAISES POPE'S VISIT TO L. AMERICA

PA260413 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

["Text" of message from Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to Pope John Paul II--date not given]

[Text] As president of Colombia, a country of undisputed Catholic faith, I wish to express my profound spiritual emotion over the visit of Your Holiness to America. Your presence in our hemisphere increases the enthusiasm of the immense majority of people who see in you, the supreme pontiff, their authentic spiritual guide. I am sure that your participation in the episcopal conference in Puebla will be good for peace and will increase the providential influence of Christ's vicar in this land of freedom.

For Your Holiness

[Signed] President of Colombia Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala

HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES; COMMENTS REPORTED

PA260231 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Honduran Foreign Affairs Minister Col Roberto Palma Galvez told Colombian newsmen that Honduras will return to the democratic system in 1981, the year general elections will be held. Palma Galvez, who began a 3-day visit to Colombia today, said that he will discuss with Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas formulas for improving their commercial relations, which at this point favor Honduras.

He also disclosed that conversations are underway with El Salvador to try to reach an agreement on the problems affecting the two nations. He also said that his country is remaining neutral in regard to Nicaragua's internal conflict.

BRIEFS

DARIEN GAP ALLOCATION--Bogota, 18 Jan (EFE)--Colombia has approved a $7.5-million allocation for the completion of the "Darien Gap" portion of the Pan-American Highway on the Colombian-Panamanian border. This gap has prevented the completion of this important highway for many years. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0157 GMT 19 Jan 79 PA]

ABC COLOR OPPOSES GRANT OF MINERAL RIGHTS TO U.S. FIRM

PY251845 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Jan 79 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Inappropriate Negotiations"]

[Text] Negotiations are underway with a foreign company, Tetton Resources and Drilling Company, for the concession of rights over the country's entire western region to explore and exploit mineral resources. The concession might be granted in terms similar to those granted previously to the Anschutz Corporation, also a U.S. company, for the exploration and exploitation of all mineral resources in the entire eastern region, with the only exceptions being hydrocarbons, gases, and stone, earthen and calcium-bearing substances.

In principle, at least--should negotiations be concluded--all mineral resources of the entire national territory, with the exception of oil, will have become mining concessions of only two foreign companies--and in the case of the Anschutz Corporation, for a period of up to 49 years from the date the decree granting the concession was promulgated.

Negotiations of this type are difficult to explain, at best. To begin with, they are not in accordance with Article 100 of the constitution, whose unequivocal meaning is to entitle the state to the ownership of the country's mineral resources and give it preference in their exploitation, even stressing that the state's duty is to exploit them and that it can only transfer that duty to private interests through concessions "in cases in which official agencies cannot undertake such work."

Moreover, the concession terms granted to the Anschutz Corporation--which would serve as a basis for the concession to the Tetton Company--are not in the least in accordance with the principle of state ownership over mineral resources found in the national territory. One can read in the contract with the Anschutz Corporation that the state has resigned itself to the position of being an owner in name only. Not only will the state give up a substantial portion of the production, which should logically go to the real owner, but it will for a long time earn no foreign exchange from the export of mineral resources and exercise no right to demand that those mineral resources be industrialized and refined inside the country.

Now that the country is approaching the time when it will have at its disposal huge amounts of electricity in the Parana River and, therefore, the possibility of a deep-reaching transformation of economic and production conditions, the question of mineral production and mineral industrialization can no longer be viewed from the angle of past experiences which have been negative. Moreover, because the country is approaching the point for general transformation of the economy, it is inappropriate and reckless to grant concessions as big, in terms of territory and time, as the one which was given to the Anschutz Corporation and the one which is now being contemplated for the Tetton Resources and Drilling Company.

FORMER ITALIAN PRESIDENT RUMOR MEETS WITH HERRERA

PA252340 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Mariano Rumor, former Italian president and top leader of European Christian Democracy, has met with President-elect Luis Herrera Campins in his office. Before entering the president-elect's office, Mariano Rumor said that the purpose of his visit was to say hello to an old and good friend such as Herrera Campins. Rumor expressed Christian Democracy's full solidarity with the president-elect and wished Herrera Campins the best of success in the tasks he will undertake beginning in March.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS DEFINITELT TO BE HELD 3 JUNE

PA252342 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Ernesto Vega report]

[Text] The municipal elections will definitely be held as scheduled on 3 June. This has just been approved by the Supreme Electoral Council in its meeting this afternoon. Dr. Carlos Delgado Chapellin [president of the Supreme Electoral Council] said that the executive branch's request that the municipal elections be held in August after the end of the school year was submitted to the country's highest electral body for consideration. The proposal was rejected by the representatives of the political parties, with the exception of Democratic Action.

LEFTISTS DISCUSS CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP, ELECTIONS

PA252347 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Ernesto Vega report]

[Text] Various opposition parties have held an important meeting to reach agreement on the election of the congressional leadership as well as to analyze matters related to the 3 June municipal elections. Radames Larrazabal, a member of the national leadership of the Venezuelan Communist Party [PCV], reported on this meeting.

[Begin Larrazabal recording] Representatives of the Movement for Socialism, Movement of the Revolutionary Left, People's Electoral Movement, PCV, [name indistinct] and the Unitary Vanguard were present. This was the first collective meeting of delegates of these parties. [Words indistinct] report to be issued to the press today. I can say in advance that among the subjects discussed were legislative coordination to act jointly and the request for legislative bloc posts in the congressional leadership, the standing work committees and other congressional entities to achieve this. This is not an absurd request but a right we have as a legislative bloc. This is a right that is demanded by at least 24 legislators who will be representing the Venezuelan left in the National Congress.

Regarding the municipal elections, there is an agreement in principle to participate in a united fashion in these elections. We discussed the most equitable procedures for the composition of slates in [number indistinct] municipal councils. We will continue to discuss this subject with a great spirit of unity and a desire to offer our people a new alternative for [words indistinct]. [end recording]

PRESIDENT LOPEZ-PORTILLO INTERVIEWED ON OIL POLICY

LD261023 London THE FINANCIAL TIMES in English 26 Jan 79 p 4 LD

[William Chislett report: "Lopez-Portillo Denies Oil 'Backleg' Threat to OPEC"]

[Text] Mexico City--Mexico will not use the huge increase in its oil production to become a "blackleg" to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Neither does its growing output represent a threat to the cartel. This was stated by Sr. Jose Lopez-Portillo, the president of Mexico, in an interview with THE FINANCIAL TIMES yesterday.

The Mexican president also denied reports that Mexico was under pressure to join OPEC and added that he could not envisage any circumstances under which it would join. It sold its oil at prices slightly higher than OPEC's and would continue to do so, he added.

The president confirmed that Mexico will attend the March meeting in London between a top OPEC delegation and non-OPEC oil producers, but only as an observer.

The March meeting could have an important bearing on future world oil prices and on future co-operation between the state oil companies in OPEC and non-OPEC countries. PEMEX, the Mexican State company, is officially estimated to have 200BN barrels of potential oil reserves. Unofficial estimates put them considerably higher, perhaps in excess of those of Saudi Arabia.

On the controversial question of Mexico's future oil production ceiling after the target of 2.25M barrels a day is reached in 1980, Sr. Lopez-Portillo reaffirmed that this will be held at 2.25M, at least during his term of office, which expires in 1982.

However he said that it was not "improbable" that production could rise to as much as 4M barrels a day by 1985. He thought 4M barrels was excessive, although not technically impossible to achieve. The main problem, Sr. Lopez-Portillo said, was that excessive oil revenues could over-heat the economy. The oil money had to be used extremely carefully. The production figure would depend on Mexico's financial needs, which could not yet be determined.

Sr. Lopez-Portillo said that Mexico was particularly interested in technological exchange with Britain and learning from its North Sea oil experiences.

Dr. Dickson Mabon, the minister of state for energy, who was in Mexico recently, said that Britain was interested in importing Mexican heavy crude in exchange for British light crude. Britain is also interested in receiving Mexican uranium and in helping Mexico to develop its coal fields. Asked whether Mexico would sell natural gas to the U.S. when President Carter comes here on February 14, Sr. Lopez-Portillo said that Mexico did not need to sell its gas, as it could all be used in its new national pipeline system.

He said that the U.S. would always be Mexico's natural client for oil and that if there was a surplus, then gas could be sold to its northern neighbour. Negotiations to sell gas to six U.S. gas distribution companies broke down at the end of 1977 after the U.S. Energy Department vetoed the price of $2.60 per thousand cubic feet.

Sr. Lopez-Portillo described Mexico's relations with the U.S. as "normal" and that the only problems were "structural and traditional ones." There was a need for more decisions which affected Mexico to be taken bilaterally, and not by the U.S. without consulting Mexico.

CARTER TO BE INVITED TO MEET CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

PA251858 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Despite opposition by (?senators) of the Popular Socialist Party, the congressional permanent committee has agreed to invite U.S. President James Carter to a committee session. The proposal was made by Senate leader Joaquin Gamboa Pascoe, who asked for approval of an invitation to President Carter to address the committee during his visit to Mexico from 14 to 16 February. He said the invitation was in reciprocity for the one made to Mexican President Lopez-Portillo by the U.S. Congress during his February 1977 visit.

Socialist Deputy Hector Rodriguez Cuellar opposed this, saying that when the Mexican chief of state went to the U.S. Congress, Senate leader O'Neill was discourteous, saying that U.S. congressmen were too busy to receive a chief of state of a developing nation. Finally, Senator [words indistinct] and [words indistinct] Deputy Enrique (?Alvarez) del Castillo approved the proposal, agreeing that Mexican legislators have sufficient maturity.

ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORTS ON WHEREABOUTS OF MISSING PERSONS

PA251226 Paris AFP in Spanish 2337 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jan (AFP)--Mexican Attorney General Oscar Flores today denied that there are any persons missing for political reasons. He made the statement as he provided information on the whereabouts of 314 persons who were reported missing.

Flores also denied that the army and police use clandestine jails to detain political militants, as has been charged by leftist political groups and international organizations for the defense of human rights. He denied that the authorities torture those arrested in order to obtain their confessions and affirmed that political prisoners are treated as prescribed by law.

He admitted that there are cases of torture, but that they are carried out on a personal basis and that the authorities punish those involved in such activities. He noted that no special group for repression of subversive activities exists in Mexico and that the authorities do not carry out kidnapings.

Leftist groups have repeatedly charged that a police department operating outside the law exists called the White Brigade.

Flores reported that to determine the whereabouts of 314 persons reported missing took several months and that they had to carry out more than 45,000 interrogations. He also said that the task was made difficult because people do not like to volunteer any information and because of the use of false identities by many of the alleged missing persons. He reported that many of the missing persons simply changed their names without notifying their relatives because they were tired of being pestered. He added that after the authorities found them and confirmed that they were not involved in any activities, they agreed not to reveal their new identities, addresses and jobs.

Finally, as he reported on the current whereabouts of the 314 persons listed as missing, he noted: 154 persons were killed in clashes with public forces in rural areas in various states and in certain factory districts. Three others have been sentenced and imprisoned, 89 are fugitives, 18 were executed by their own comrades as traitors, 26 have no police record, 20 were killed in fights with opposing groups, 2 were killed attempting to escape from jail and 1 died of an illness.

The attorney general denied that the arrival in 2 days of Pope John Paul II in Mexico had anything to do with the report. He said that the report had been completed and, therefore, released, adding that the Mexican Government answers only the demands of its citizens.

Asked if there were still guerrilla groups in Mexico, Flores said that their activity has not been substantiated at this time.

Finally, he affirmed that the Mexican Government is not authoritarian and that, within the spirit of the recently approved political reform, the authorities will continue their efforts to clarify the cases of all those persons who are reported missing for political reasons.

EFFORTS TO OBTAIN SAFE-CONDUCT FOR CAMPORA TO CONTINUE

FL181346 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1321 GMT 18 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The Mexican Government will continue its diplomatic efforts to obtain a safe-conduct that will allow former Argentine President Hector Campora to leave his country. Campora has been in asylum in the Mexican Embassy in Buenos Aires since 24 March 1976. Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo has expressed his hope that the Argentine military junta will grant the safe-conduct.

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT--Mexico City, 14 Jan (AFP)--Mexico's trade deficit increased by 57.2 percent between January and November 1978, as compared to the same period in 1977. The $1.837-billion deficit is, nonetheless, regarded as "acceptable" by government officials and resulted mostly from the purchase of machinery used in the exploitation of the recently discovered oil deposits. Mexico's oil exports, which in 1978 amounted to $1.4 billion, or twice as much as in 1977, prevented the deficit from becoming greater. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 14 Jan 79 PA]

OIL PRODUCTION INCREASE--Mexico City, 14 Jan (EFE)--Mexican Petroleum, the state-owned enterprise, announced here today that over 1,000 oil wells will be drilled in 1979 in order to increase oil production from 1.45 million barrels per day to 2 million barrels per day in 1980. All wells will be drilled in the eastern part of the country using U.S. or British machinery. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 2000 GMT 14 Jan 79 PA]

UNEMPLOYMENT INCREASE--Mexico City, 21 Jan (EFE)--Arsenio Farell, director of the Mexican Social Security Institute, said here today, Sunday, that unemployment in Mexico increased by 6.8 percent in 1978. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1643 GMT 21 Jan 79 PA]

VOLOJ PEREIRA EXPLAINS GOALS OF 'GOD AND PANAMA' MOVEMENT

PA250415 Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA

[By Juan Carlos Voloj Pereira, leader of "God and Panama" movement; from the "Resumen Informativo" Program--live]

[Excerpts] Our goal is to establish here a definite state of right in the fullest meaning of the word and also democracy as we all understand it--by the people, of the people and for the people--and to make sure that our democratic principles of freedom, justice and social justice and our faith are not attacked or undermined.

Soviet-Cuban communism is a ruthless imperialist force that has decided to conquer the world by all means and at any price. This we know. Our country is one of the most coveted objectives in the vast battle promoted, supported and directed by the Soviets and efficiently carried out by their lackeys in this infamy: Fidel Castro and the Cuban communist army.

The God and Panama movement is only warning Panamanians about that threat because the deadline the Soviets have established to be ready to destroy us with their closed fists is up. The members of and sympathizers with the God and Panama movement feel that the freedom we have defended for generations is in danger; we know how communist subversion operates. I am not just conjuring this up. I could spend the whole morning explaining to you how the Cubans and Soviets carry out their subversive activities and what the strategy is that their commandos and KGB agents use. They say that we have CIA agents here and that I could be one of them. My reply is that all of them are KGB agents. Their general headquarters is in the Cuban Embassy.

We know the meaning--it is very significant and also very subtle--of the phrase: You kept your word, Omar; thanks [cumplistes, Omar; gracias]. We also know the meaning of that message for the agents of the Soviet-Cuban imperialist cause: Panamanians, Cubans and nationals of other countries.

Alongside the determination of Moscow and Havana, we must add that of the local communists who have strictly followed the instructions which the USSR and Castro have sent to Panama through the Cuban Embassy. These instructions are contained in the message that the top communist leaders are spreading as tactical and practical theory to so-called people's parties, or communist parties.

Castro said: "The people's party or the communists who support our cause will never attack the one who steals from the public treasury if the one who steals possesses plenty of power because, if the communists attack those who are powerful, they could destroy them and there is no need to create a martyr." That is why in Panama you will never see the People's Party, the Federation of Panamanian Students (FEP) or the allies of the government attack Omar Torrijos' government.

We believe in an ideological and political pluralism in which the views and political practices of the opposition do not violate basic human and political rights. Communism opposes freedom, faith, the family, God, the individual and any political ideology contrary to the totalitarian principle. The communists are convinced that they are right and they cannot tolerate others who claim to be right. In complementing its main objective, which is to restore full democracy, peace, progress and real and effective benefits to Panamanians, the God and Panama movement has begun its struggle against selfish, wrong and inhuman sectarianism.

JOINT MANEUVERS WITH VENEZUELA SEEN AS PREPARATION FOR ATTACK

PA252148 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Panama and Venezuela will carry out joint military maneuvers in preparation for an eventual attack on Nicaragua in the event that President Anastasio Somoza orders an invasion of Costa Rica, Nicaraguan opposition sources announced last night.

The announcement coincided with the arrival in Panama of seven Nicaraguan dissidents who are members of the Group of 12--a coalition of intellectuals, businessmen and religious leaders who, in alliance with the Sandinist National Liberation Front, are seeking the overthrow of Somoza.

During the interview, a spokesman for the group, Catholic Priest Miguel Escoto, said that neither Venezuela nor Panama will remain indifferent if Somoza orders a military attack against Costa Rica.

Last month, Somoza threatened to order an invasion of Costa Rica to dismantle Sandinist guerrilla bases.

Gen Omar Torrijos announced last week that Panama and Venezuela will soon carry out joint military maneuvers on Panamanian territory but he did not give the reasons for the maneuvers. However, Nicaraguan sources have stated tht Panama and Venezuela are prepared to send military aid to Costa Rica in the event of an invasion. This is the real reason for the maneuvers, a group of 12 source said.

Miguel Escoto said that Somoza's days are numbered. I don't think he will fall next week, but he will fall within a few months, he said.

SPADAFORA TELEPHONES FRIENDS, DENIES BEING WOUNDED

PA251846 Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Two nights ago Dr Hugo Spadafora telephoned several friends here in Panama as well as a number of persons connected with the Sandinist National Liberation Front who operate in this city to give them specific instructions about various activities that are to be held in Panama within the next few days on behalf of the Sandinists.

Spadafora is not wounded as a result of a problem with a rocket launcher, as a Honduran paper reported yesterday in a sensationalist manner. Dr Spadafora only received a few scratches.

During his call the night before last, Hugo Spadafora said that the Sandinists, among them several Panamanians, had managed to burn down the Somozist headquarters at Cardenas. This has not been reported because ACAN-EFE is already tilting in favor of Somoza for monetary reasons.

Dr Spadafora participated in that attack on the Cardenas headquarters, which was a complete victory for the Sandinists.

During his telephone call to Panama, Dr Spadafora said that the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade, made up of Panamanians fighting in Nicaragua, recently increased to 100 persons because more Panamanians, on their own initiative, have joined the fight against the Nicaraguan dictator. According to Dr Spadafora, the Panamanians' morale is very high. He also denied that 20 Panamanians have died. Only two have unfortunately been killed, as recently announced in an official communique. Four persons have been injured due to a number of reasons, including Dr Jorge Aparicio, whose arm was dislocated several weeks ago but who is now well again.

COSTA RICA

GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS WITH CARAZO

PA251359 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo arrived in the country last night to meet with government officials. During his 24-hour visit to Costa Rica, the Guatemalan foreign minister will meet with the president of the republic and with his colleague, the minister of foreign affairs. Although the topics of the discussion between the Guatemalan foreign minister and Costa Rican authorities have not been revealed, it was said that they may discuss the political situation prevailing in the isthmus and its economic repercussions.

CALDERON ANNOUNCES FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING WITH POPE

PA260139 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] The Central American foreign ministers will meet with Pope John Paul II next week. This report was confirmed by Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier following his meeting with Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez. The foreign ministers will meet with the pope in Puebla on Wednesday to express the greetings of all the Central American peoples.

PLN TERMS CARAZO ADMINISTRATION 'INEPT'

PA260416 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2251 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--In a strongly worded statement, the National Liberation Party [PLN], the country's largest opposition party, has criticized various actions of President Rodrigo Carazo Odio's administration.

On demanding an end to the "clumsy handling of international relations," the PLN considers that such policies "break the equilibrium of peace and security in the Central American region" which the party has assured with "a wise and appropriate action." It added that as a result of the current position of the Costa Rican Government, "the Central American Common Market's normal operation is today threatened with destruction."

The PLN believes that the Carazo administration is "inept." It blames the Carazo administration for endangering the country's social peace, weakening the legislative branch, playing with the patriotic feelings of the Costa Ricans and other charges. The PLN also said that there must be an end to the "Nixon-style" policy and the "government of a thousand faces, guided by demagogy and improvisation."

For the Liberationists, the 8 months of the current administration have brought about "a national crisis which affects the popular majorities as well as the business sectors and the middle class."

NICARAGUAN GUARDSMAN CAPTURED AT PENAS BLANCAS

PA251217 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0108 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Jose, 24 Jan (ACAN-EFE)-- A Nicaraguan National Guardsman was captured yesterday by Costa Rican authorities at the Penas Blancas border post, officials of the Public Security Ministry today told ACAN-EFE.

The Nicaraguan, identified as Segundo Cruz, was wearing civilian clothes. He was arrested after he produced a Nicaraguan Army identification card listing him as a telegraph operator.

After being questioned by the National Security Agency (ASN), he was turned over to the members of the OAS observers mission which arrived in Costa Rica last week at the request of the Costa Rican Government.

GIRL SHOT BY NICARAGUAN NATIONAL GUARDSMAN DIES

PA252233 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2128 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Fourteen-year-old Yolanda Guido Obando, who was shot by the Somozist National Guard in the Nicaraguan border region, died at the Mexico Hospital at 1355 this afternoon. Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey, public security and government minister, has just confirmed the report.

The seriously wounded girl had been taken from Guanacaste to San Jose in order to receive medical treatment. However, her condition deteriorated yesterday afternoon and she died a few minutes ago.

The public security and government minister has ordered that a formal and forceful protest be lodged with the OAS and that letters be sent to all the American presidents informing them about the case involving this girl, who was shot to death by Somozist guards in the Penas Blancas border region.

The government has offered her family all possible aid.

BRIEFS

COFFEE DISEASE REPORT--The Costa Rican coffee office has received unofficial reports that the coffee rust disease outbreak which occurred in Carazo, Nicaragua, 2 years ago has spread to other areas. The same authorities have asked for confirmation of this report from Nicaragua but have not received an answer. The coffee office now has asked the regional organization dealing with plant and animal diseases to investigate. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA]

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS LEAK OF OAS HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

PA251233 Paris AFP in Spanish 0150 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Jan (AFP)--El Salvador today protested to the OAS General Secretariat over the leak of a strictly confidential OAS document which was published by two U.S. newspapers within the past few days. The Secretariat of the Salvadoran Presidency indicated that the document distorts the truth, seriously harming the Salvadoran people and government. The document is the report of the Inter-American Human Rights Committee which visited El Salvador some months ago to investigate violations denounced by Salvadoran antigovernment sectors.

According to the Washington POST and the New York TIMES, which published the report, the human rights of political prisoners are flagrantly violated in El Salvador. Since the document was leaked abroad, the Salvadoran Government has instructed its ambassador in Washington to present an official protest and to demand an explanation from the OAS. The OAS immediately issued a bulletin disavowing the publication and indicating that the official report will be released only after the presentation of San Salvador's reply.

GUATEMALA

UNIDENTIFIED ASSAILANTS KILL DEPUTY FUENTES MOHR

PA252243 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2206 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 Jan (LATIN)--Alberto Fuentes Mohr, Guatemalan vice presidential candidate and an opposition deputy, was killed today by unidentified men in this capital's downtown area, a volunteer fire department spokesman reported today. Fuentes Mohr, a deputy for the Christian Democratic Party, was trying to register a new political party with social democratic leanings.

According to the same spokesman, Fuentes Mohr, a former foreign minister, was driving his car along La Reforma Avenue when he was simultaneously fired upon from two cars that were traveling on either side of him.

Fuentes Mohr's body was slumped over the wheel of the car. He had sustained many bullets wounds in the head and other parts of his body, the fire department spokesman reported.

ARMY COMBING QUICHE AREA IN SEARCH OF GUERRILLAS

PA250422 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2356 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Specialized army forces today are staging a combing operation in Quiche, northwestern Guatemala, in search of groups belonging to the clandestine People's Guerrilla Army (EGP).

During the past 48 hours, the leftist guerrilla organization staged a number of attacks that left a toll of three dead policemen and [words indistinct]. The action of the regular army resulted in the rescue of two kidnaped persons. According to the report issued today by the army's Public Relations Department, the units that are combing the area in search of the guerrillas found Jose Humberto Gonzales, police inspector of Nebaj, Quiche, [words indistinct] Enrique Brolo, who had been kidnaped during attacks on the town by the EGP.

It was reported that the military operation, in which the "Kaibiles" (Sons of the Devil) forces are participating, is part of the army's mobilization to combat the guerrilla factions which, according to President Gen Romeo Lucas, "are latent, although small in size."

During attacks on farms in the Quiche region, the guerrillas killed military policemen Julio Roberto Hernandez, Manuel Maria Gomez and Porfirio Ixpec and 74-old farmer Enrique Brolo Galicia. They occupied the town of Nebaj for 45 minutes, forcing the townspeople to gather in the main square, kneel with their hands behind their heads and listen to a political lecture. The guerrillas cut the telephone and telegraph lines and overpowered the police, taking weapons and ammunition.

NEW 'CENTER-RIGHT' POLITICAL PARTY REGISTERED

PA250432 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0014 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 24 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemala's seventh political party was registered today within the framework of the "opening" announced and implemented by the government of Gen Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia since his inauguration on 1 July.

The new party--the third to register in the past 6 months--is the Authentic Nationalist Central [Central Autentica Nacionalista--CAN], which [words indistinct]. The party has been described as center-right. Luis Antonio Lopez, its main spokesman and former president of Congress, rejected the label, arguing that "in the current situation, the terms communist, anticommunist, right, left and center have lost all validity." He said the party's position is "nationalist and democratic" and that "the organization will strengthen the country's institutional system, particularly in the search for unity and respect for the Guatemalan family."

NICARAGUA

RAFAEL CANO: WE WILL RESIST U.S. PRESSURE

PA252000 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Rafael Cano, Somoza's press secretary, told this news program a few minutes ago that the United States has threatened the Nicaraguan Government with applying pressure and noted that such measures have been in effect for quite a long time. We have faced credit restrictions as well as restrictions on other forms of aid, but those threats do not intimidate us, the press secretary noted. He added: We will seek a way to become independent of the United States if the pressure continues.

Cano stated: The plebiscite proposed by our government cannot be more clear. We will allow international supervision, and if it does not take place it will not be our fault, he noted.

Cano said that the Nicaraguan Government, through Foreign Minister Julio C. Quintana, is preparing its response to the charges filed by Costa Rica at the Permanent Council of the OAS. Cano said that they had been unaware of the incident involving a 14-year-old Costa Rican girl, Yolanda Guido. He said that homemade bombs have exploded recently in the country but that the general situation in Nicaragua is normal.

DOCUMENT ESTABLISHING NATIONAL PATRIOTIC FRONT SIGNED

PA260029 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2103 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 25 Jan (LATIN)--The Nicaraguan opposition divided into two fronts today with the signing of the document establishing the National Patriotic Front (FPN). The Broad Opposition Front (FAO) will continue to operate separately.

The FPN includes several organizations which participated in the establishment of the FAO but which left it because they did not agree with the process of diplomatic mediation in the Nicaraguan political conflicts.

The members of the FPN are: the United People's Movement (which includes a number of leftist and ultraleftist student, worker and peasant organizations), the Group of 12 (which unofficially represents the Tertiary faction of the Sandinist National Liberation Front), the Union of Nicaraguan Workers, the Independent Liberal Party, the People's Social Christian Party, the Nicaraguan Conservative Party headed by Dr Fernando Aguero Rocha, the Managua Radio Newsmen's Union and the Revolutionary Workers Front [Frente Obrero Revolucionario].

The following organizations continue to be members of the FAO: the Nicaraguan Conservative Party (legally recognized), the Authentic Conservative Party, the National Conservative Alliance (which was headed by assassinated newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro), the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party, the Constitutionalist Liberal Party [Partido Liberal Constitucionalista], the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, the Socialist Party of Nicaragua, the General Independent Workers Confederation and the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions (linked with the Regional Inter-American Labor Organization--ORIT).

HUNGER STRIKE CONTINUES; SUPPORTERS OCCUPY BUILDING IN MASAYA

PA251744 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1545 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--At least 25 persons this morning took over the Red Cross building in Masaya, 30 km east of here, in an act of support for the hunger strike which leaders of the Federation of Health Workers (FETSALUD) began 9 days ago. Adan Sanchez, president of the Masaya Red Cross, confirmed the news, adding that "since the movement is peaceful, our position is to remain neutral and give shelter to persons entering the building."

FETSALUD launched a hunger strike for an indefinite period in the offices of the Nicaraguan Red Cross in this capital to pressure Anastasio Somoza's government into seeking a solution to the social problems confronting almost 3,000 hospital workers who were dismissed from their jobs because they participated in a strike last August.

The top leaders of the country's three most important labor unions have supported the FETSALUD leaders and have tried unsuccessfully to intercede with Labor Minister Justo Garcia on behalf of the strikers.

Nicaraguan health authorities have maintained that the problem of last year's strike has already been solved and that they are not in a position to reinstate over 2,000 unemployed hospital workers due to a lack of funds as there has been a significant decrease in income from the national lottery used to support the hospitals.

The newspaper LA PRENSA of this capital, a tenacious opponent of Somoza's regime, commented on the hospital workers' problems in an editorial yesterday, asking: If the "case has been solved," as the government maintains, why are dozens of persons risking their lives in a hunger strike? Are the labor minister and his government trying to deny that 2,800 hospital workers were dismissed, that consequently thousands of Nicaraguans are hungry and that hospital services--for lack of sufficient competent personnel--have experienced an alarming reduction in efficiency and services to the irresponsible extreme of risking the health of the patients? the opposition evening paper asked.

Meanwhile, almost the entire top leadership of the United People's Movement (MPU) has joined the hunger strike at local Red Cross headquarters. On the other hand, with the prolongation of the hunger strike, doctors who have examined those participating in the voluntary fast are of the opinion that the health of the strikers has deteriorated considerably, so much so that they have begun to fear for the lives of the strikers.

While reporting on the reaction to the hunger strike, local information media have continued routine reporting on robberies and on other deaths caused by the uncontainable violence.

Jose Esquivel Rocha, 32, was killed yesterday by unidentified persons who shot him while he was in a taxi in this capital.

It was also reported that the Managua branch of the E. Chamorro and Company industrial firm was robbed for the third time. Four armed and hooded youths stole some 100,000 cordobas (approximately $14,000) from the firm.

Francisco Gutierrez, the owner of a chain of stores, was also attacked by two armed youths as he was about to make a bank deposit. The unidentified youths took 25,000 cordobas (over $3,000) in cash from the businessman.

Other small businesses, such as pharmacies, were also robbed by unidentified persons stealing lesser sums.

WAVE OF VIOLENCE CONTINUES THROUGHOUT NATION

PA260213 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0038 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[By Eduardo Romero]

[Excerpts] Managua, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--More assassinations, doctors strikes, hunger strikes, robberies, attacks and the rearrest of citizens released as a result of the December amnesty were added to the wave of violence in this Central American country.

Two National Guard privates died during the past few hours. They were Abelino Davila, who was killed during a sudden attack on the Fifth Police Precinct in Managua, and Horacio Flores, who was shot to death by two Sandinist youths in the public market in Masaya, 30 km east of Managua.

At noon in Masaya, two urban guerrillas armed with revolvers tried to kill Roberto Hueck Aragon, nephew of Cornelio Hueck, former president of the Nicaraguan Congress. Hueck Aragon was shot in the neck but the bullet did not hit any vital organs. He used his pistol to repel the attack and the guerrillas fled.

In Granada, 45 km east of here, and in Managua's eastern hospital the resident doctors began a strike to protest the nonpayment of their salaries by the health authorities.

Meanwhile, the Permanent Human Rights Committee in Managua (tolerated but not recognized by the government) reported that the families of six youths charged that they were rearrested by police patrols in various areas. The youths had been released more than 1 month ago as a result of the amnesty law issued by the government for prisoners arrested for political activities or antigovernment actions.

A priest who arrived from the country's northern zone charged that persons have been arbitrarily arrested, that women have been raped and that peasants are missing following their arrest by military patrols.

FSLN SPOKESMAN DISCUSSES STRUGGLE, POST-SOMOZA POLICIES

LD251021 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 21 Jan 79 p 2 LD

[Angel Luis de la Calle undated interview in Caracas with Sandinist National Liberation Front leader Tomas Borge: "A Revolutionary Change in Nicaragua Will Transform the Geopolitics of Central America"]

[Text] EL PAIS: What, in your view, is the present state of the crisis your country is experiencing?

Tomas Borge: The United States has been unable to find a formula to resolve the Nicaraguan conflict in accordance with its interests, and as a result this has placed the traditional political parties in my country in an impasse. This situation is largely due to the attempt to artificially isolate an objective reality, namely the existence of Sandinism as a force which unites public opinion. It is really absurd to try to solve the problem without the help of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], quite apart from the fact that we have nothing to gain from talking with Somoza or accepting any interference in the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. And, in our eyes, the abortive OAS mediation plan was an act of interference.

Question: Nevertheless, one gets the impression that Somoza is manipulating the opposition as he pleases and that he feels secure in power.

Answer: What is happening is that he can still count on American support when it comes down to it, as long as the State Department has not found a formula for replacing Somoza which fits its interests.

Question: The conviction exists that the Nicaraguan political opposition is deeply divided. Is this impression correct? With what group does the FSLN identify politically?

Answer: The Sandinist response to these divisionist maneuvers has been to unify its forces and back the creation of the National Patriotic Front, an entity which is very heterogeneous from the standpoint of its political formulations but has intransigent anti-Somozism as a common denominator. This patriotic front includes the "Group of 12," the United People's Movement, the Social Christian People's Party, the Socialist Party and the General Labor Confederation, the biggest trade union organization in Nicaragua.

Question: And what about the Broad Opposition Front?

Answer: Since the failure of the mediation formula, the front has seen the little authority it possessed plummet. This group, which played a definite role at one particular time, later became--and it still is--an instrument of the mediation sponsored by the United States, which is tantamount to saying an instrument of the most reactionary interests in our country.

Question: You spoke earlier of unifying the FSLN. What does this process consist of exactly?

Answer: In my view, the process of unification presently underway is qualitatively the most important step which has been taken over the past few months. And it has been arrived at after a painstaking analysis of the situation which convinced us that, as long as we were divided, we could not stand up to the power of Somoza and the National Guard. The result of this historic decision was the creation of a national leadership which coordinates the front's political and military activities. The three factions in our organization are represented in this collegiate leadership.

Question: How is the FSLN organized militarily?

Answer: I am going to be very emphatic about this point: At the present time we have sufficient resources in terms of firepower and trained combatants to have a real possibility of overthrowing the National Guard. In my view this situation is a genuine innovation in the history of Latin American liberation movements. However, our military efforts have forced us to step up our political functions, and this has made it appear that our armed activities have decreased. Although priority has been given to political objectives, military actions have been continued, with constant harassment of the National Guard.

We have also reorganized the officers leading the military operations. Henry Luis Modesto is head of the guerrillas in the mountains. The northern front is led by German Pomares and the southern front by Eden Pastora. In the interior of the country comrades Joaquin Cuadra and Ballardo Arce are urban area resistance leaders. All are under orders of the FSLN national leadership.

Question: Would you have talks with the National Guard in order to reach an agreement, provided the latter was in the interests of the Nicaraguan people?

Answer: In this connection I wish to point out that we are fully disposed to be generous toward the prisoners we hold and any prisoners we may take in the future. We have always said that we are implacable in combat and generous in victory.

Question: Will you consider the crisis in your country resolved and your objectives achieved when Somoza surrenders his power?

Answer: Absolutely not. It is not sufficient for Somoza to leave. It is necessary for the regime of domination, exploitation and aggression which he embodies to disappear. And this will only be achieved by means of the necessary revolutionary transformations which the government will have to effect. We support the creation of a national government in which all the political forces will participate, irrespective of their different ideological concepts. This democratic people's government has its roots at present in the National Patriotic Front and it must set in motion the program on which we have all agreed. The FSLN has no hegemonist pretentions at all in this government.

Question: What effects could Somoza's fall have in Central America?

Answer: It is no secret that revolutionary change in Nicaragua will produce a change in the political geography of Central America. This is the reason for the anxiety of the United States and the thug governments of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras: Their own political future is at stake. And this is also the reason why these three neighboring governments sent troops to support Somoza's National Guard.

Question: What attitudes will the future government adopt in international relations?

Answer: We have an interest in strengthening friendly relations with all peoples and governments in the world, including the United States, though on the assumption, of course, that there is the most absolute respect for our dignity and sovereignty. We do not want to continue artificial disputes with anyone. One important aspect in this sense is our willingness, as we have already said on other occasions, to respect agreements entered into in the past. We are willing to renegotiate our foreign debt, without demagoguery or obstreperousness. In Spain's case, your country can be sure that we will renegotiate the debt contracted by Somoza, despite the fact that the Spanish loans, the famous "Spanish package," were partly used by the dictator to repress our people.

MALMIERCA CONCLUDES OFFICIAL GDR VISIT

Addresses Banquet

FL251138 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has called attention to the important and growing role of the nonalined countries movement in the international situation. In a speech at a banquet given in his honor by his GDR counterpart Oskar Fischer, Malmierca stressed Cuba's belief that the movement's sixth summit in Havana next September will contribute to the strengthening of its cohesion and unity.

Agreements Signed

FL260121 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today ended a 3-day official visit to the GDR which was a notable example of the ties which unite the two countries. During those 3 days Malmierca met with Erich Honecker, secretary general of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, and Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. He signed two agreements dealing with increasing [word indistinct] between the two countries and on cooperation between the Foreign Ministries of Cuba and the GDR. The importance of the nonalined countries movement as a positive factor in resolving numerous international problems and the contribution that will be made to the movement by the next summit in Havana were elements in the communique issued at the end of Malmierca's visit to the GDR. The visit by the Cuban foreign minister to the GDR is given prominent coverage in the press of that country.

Details of Communique

FL260144 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Excerpt] Malmierca also held several rounds of talks with his counterpart Oskar Fischer, which concluded with the signing of a final joint communique. The document points out the importance of the nonalined countries movement as a factor in solving numerous international problems and the contributions that will be made in strengthening the movement by the upcoming summit in Havana. The communique points out GDR support of the effective internationalist aid Cuba gives to peoples struggling for their national and social liberation. Friendship with the socialist camp and especially with the USSR, the need to make the detente process irreversible and condemnation of China's policy of hostility to peace are elements stressed in the joint communique.

RICARDO CABRIZAS BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT TO PORTUGAL

FL260047 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Vice Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas today arrived in Portugal for a 4-day official visit to start the Luso-Cuban mixed commission session. The activities of the commission will begin tomorrow with the plenary session at the Foreign Ministry and will conclude on Saturday 27 January with the signing of bilateral agreements.

CUBAN ENVOY RECEIVED BY KUWAITI LEADERS

FL252132 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2103 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Kuwait's top officials have received Cuban Ambassador Miguel Brugueras who has concluded his diplomatic functions in that country. Brugueras has been received by Amir Shaikh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the crown prince [as heard] of Kuwait; Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah; and Foreign Affairs Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, with whom he discussed the nonalined countries movement and bilateral relations.

During the talks, the top Kuwaiti officials were quite interested in preparations for the sixth summit conference of the nonalined countries to be held in Havana in September. Brugueras explained the development of such preparations in the Cuban capital, and the Kuwaiti officials expressed the need to intensify the movement's unity.

CUBAN DELEGATION IN GUYANA FOR KOREAN REUNIFICATION TALKS

FL251847 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Georgetown--The first three delegations, including one from Cuba, which will attend a Latin American conference in support of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, have arrived in Guyana. The Cuban delegation, headed by PCC Central Committee member Rene de los Santos, is composed of Maria Aida Nogales and Manuel Guillot, officials of the PCC Central Committee.

Likewise, a delegation of South Korea's Revolutionary Party for Reunification, headed by its Vice President (Lin Yong-chan) and composed of the Central Committee national chief (Cho In-ham), arrived last night. Evelia Galis Menendez, representative of the Afro-Asia-Latin American Peoples Solidarity Organization, also arrived yesterday.

The conference, scheduled to begin tomorrow, will be attended by representatives from Caribbean and Latin American countries. A Guyanese major official will make the opening remarks. Robert Corbin, Guyana's minister of state for national development, and DPRK delegates and officials welcomed the arriving delegations.

CARIBBEAN PLANNING EXPERTS MEETING OPENS IN HAVANA

FL252113 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2032 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The first meeting of Caribbean countries planning experts opened today at the Havana Libre Hotel in Havana City. The meeting will last until 31 January.

[Name indistinct] (Clark), Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) director for the Caribbean, and Jorge Mendez, director of the Latin American Social and Economic Planning Institute (ILPES), a regional organization that specializes in planning, spoke at the inaugural session of the meeting of experts.

(Max Hayfield), the meeting's coordinator, turned over the chairmanship of the meeting to Cuban delegation chief Sergio Placencia after the latter's election by the delegates participating in the meeting. Surinam's delegate was elected deputy chairman and Belize's delegate was elected recorder. Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, St Vincent, the Netherlands Antilles and six intergovernmental and United Nations organizations also are participating in the meeting.

Miguel Figueras, first vice president of the Central Planning Board (JUCEPLAN), spoke on behalf of Cuba at the inaugural session of this first meeting of Caribbean planning experts. Figueras pointed out that in the current world marked by scientific advances and an increasingly more complex economic situation, planning is imperative in order to learn, guide, direct and control all the socio-economic aspects of a state. The underdeveloped world, he said, needs these techniques even more, since the free play of economic factors does not guarantee the economic and social transformations required to eliminate the level of poverty it is experiencing.

Figueras then expressed the joy and responsibility which the Cuban people feel because this first meeting is being held in our island.

JUCEPLAN First Vice President Miguel Figueras referred to the economic crisis that is affecting the developed capitalist world, saying the crisis has not been stopped, and it strongly affects and hurts the underdeveloped nations. He noted that the crisis especially affects the Caribbean countries, and he cited the low prices of sugar and bauxite in the so-called world market. The Cuban economy, Miguel Figueras added, also has been affected, but to a lesser degree because 20 years ago our country undertook a certain path toward development by transforming the existing economic-social structure, introducing planning and developing just economic relations with the socialist countries. Figueras said Cuba can offer its planning experiences to the Caribbean countries and people with modesty and simplicity as a duty of solidarity.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ENDS IN HAVANA

FL251129 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] After examining and discussing 15 proposals submitted by the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Cuba, Hungary and Poland, the international scientific conference entitled "20th anniversary of the revolution," which was sponsored by the Social Sciences Institute of the Academy of Sciences, has concluded in this capital.

In his closing remarks Jose A. Bustamante, vice president of the Academy of Sciences, pointed out that the conference had been a means to focus on numerous aspects of the Cuban revolutionary process and exchange experiences between the participants from homogeneous institutions of the socialist camp.

NONALINED COUNTRIES BROADCASTING EXPERTS TO MEET IN HAVANA

FL231241 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The meetings of two groups of experts of the nonalined countries committee for cooperation of broadcasting organizations will be held from 2 to 6 February of this year at the Havana Libre Hotel in this capital. The Cuban delegation will be composed of specialists of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television and the Communications and Foreign Relations ministries.

BLAS ROCA RECEIVES FRENCH DEPUTIES

FL241520 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1432 GMT 24 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Blas Roca, member of the PCC Politburo and president of the People's Government National Assembly, has received a delegation of the friendship with Cuba group of the French National Assembly.

The talks dealt with the process of institutionalization carried out in our country and the functions of the national assemblies of Cuba and France.

BRITISH COMMUNIST LEADER CONCLUDES VISIT

FL241527 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1432 GMT 24 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Michael E. McGahey, chairman of the Communist Party of Great Britain, has departed for his country after holding friendly talks with PCC Politburo member Jose R. Machado Ventura. The British leader, who visited our country at the invitation of the PCC, also toured the installations of the daily GRANMA during the last day of his stay.

FINNISH INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE MINISTER CONTINUES VISIT

Calls at Foreign Ministry

FL260052 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Interim Cuban Foreign Minister Jose Fernandez Cossio this afternoon received Finnish Minister of Industry and Commerce Eero Rantala, who paid a courtesy call at the Foreign Ministry.

Visits Chemical Industry Ministry

FL252259 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Eero Rantala, minister of industry and commerce of Finland, has met with Antonio Esquivel, minister of chemical industry, at the Cuban ministry headquarters. Rantala heads the delegation from his country to the fourth meeting of the mixed commission for economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation, which is being held in this capital. At the meeting, the Finnish minister explained that Nordic country's development in the chemical industry. For his part, Antonio Esquivel listed the basic sectors of our chemical industry, which include petroleum refining, fertilizer production and paper manufacturing.

RSFSR SOCIAL SECURITY MINISTER VISITS EDUCATION MINISTRY

FL252314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Domna Komarova, RSFSR minister of social security, and the delegation accompanying her have visited the Education Ministry, where they were received by Asela de los Santos, member of the Central Committee and head of this ministry. During their stay, the visitors were briefed on aspects of the national education system, the improvement of the system, adult education and education in general. The meeting also served to exchange experiences on the integration of youth in work activities and the role played by the Education Ministry in this process.

RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES ANGOLAN FOREIGN MINISTER

FL251119 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with Paulo Jorge, minister of foreign relations of the People's Republic of Angola and MPLA-Labor Party secretary for cooperation.

During the talks the Cuban leader and the Angolan foreign minister examined the international situation, especially African problems and matters dealing with the nonalined summit to be held in our capital in September of this year.

CUBAN, ANGOLAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTERS MEET

FL252009 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Yesterday afternoon Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Marcelo Fernandez Font received Roberto de Almeida, minister of foreign trade of the People's Republic of Angola, who is visiting our country with the delegation headed by the president of that nation, Dr Agostinho Neto. The meeting dealt with subjects of interest to both countries, including Cuban cooperation with Angola and trade relations. The talks took place in a favorable manner, given the close ties of friendship which unite us. Minister Roberto de Almeida was accompanied by the officers and directors of trade policy, economics and of the Angolan National Bank. Attending for the Cuban side were directors of trade policy and foreign business management.

VISITING ANGOLAN OFFICIAL PRAISES CUBAN COOPERATION

FL261123 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] MPLA-Labor Party Politburo member Evaristo Rodrigues Kimba termed Cuban cooperation with Angola as very positive, especially in the health and education sectors. In a meeting to examine the results of Cuban cooperation in the northern Province of Cabinda during 1978, which was attended by the Angolan leader as a guest, Rodrigues noted the Cuban internationalist contribution to that country since 1975.

In the specific situation of Cabinda which, because of its isolation from the rest of the country, was the target of serious threats and aggressions by imperialism, Cuba gave such a great aid that it will never be forgotten, he stated.

BRIEFS

HAVANA INFANT MORTALITY RATE--The lowest child mortality figure for a single year in Havana Province was the figure for 1978, which was 17.5 per every 1,000 live births. This represents 46 fewer deaths than in 1977, when there were 183 deaths, which places Havana [Province] in second place nationally. The lowest figures were in the municipalities of Quivican and Nueva Paz, while Bejucal and Santa Cruz showed the greatest improvements in comparison with the previous year. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 24 Jan 79 FL]

POPE'S ARRIVAL IN SANTO DOMINGO REPORTED BY ANSA

AU260908 Rome ANSA in English 0825 GMT 26 Jan 79 AU

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 26 Jan (ANSA)--Pope John Paul II began his first major trip abroad as pontiff with a stopover visit to Santo Domingo on his way to third Latin American bishop conference in Mexico. Smiling as he emerged from the "Alitalia" "DC-10" Thursday afternoon, the pope knelt and kissed the ground as soon as he had stepped off the plane. He was welcomed at the "De las Americas" airport by the president of the Dominican Republic, Antonio Guzman. After a cannon salute and the playing of the Dominican national anthem, with crack army units in full dress uniform standing stiffly at attention, the Polish-born pope delivered a message in excellent Spanish.

In reply to the welcome extended him by President Guzman, John Paul recalled Christopher Colombus and the first Catholic mass celebrated in the Americas, supposedly on this West Indies island. For his "first encouter with this land," the pontiff called on "all the peoples of Latin America to enlarge the frontiers of their creativity to build and more human and more Christian world." The pope also mentioned "the poor, the farm laborers, the ill and those on the edge of society, all those who put human solidarity into practice despite the obstacles in their paths."

ADDITIONAL REPORTAGE PROVIDED ON PAPAL VISIT

FL251832 [Editorial Report FL] Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish at 1730 GMT on 25 January carries live coverage of the welcoming ceremony for Pope John Paul at Las Americas airport. The announcer reports that the Alitalia jet has arrived at the airport, where President and Mrs Antonio Guzman, other government officials and the diplomatic corps will welcome the pope. The papal nuncio and the Doninican Foreign Ministry protocol chief enter the plane at 1736 GMT. Shortly thereafter the pope deplanes and is welcomed at the foot of the ramp by President Guzman, Mrs Guzman and other officials. The pope is then rendered honors, including a 21-gun salute and the respective anthems.

At 1746 GMT President Guzman officially welcomes the pope with brief solemn remarks. Discussing Christianity in the Dominican Republic, Guzman refers to the nation's shield which has the New Testament and a white cross for peace and the words "God, country and freedom." The Dominican Republic, he says, is highly honored by the pope's visit. He then expresses the joy which the Dominican people feel over his presence. Guzman further welcomes the members of the pope's entourage. The president then wishes that the pope's stay in the Dominican Republic will be a pleasant one. He concludes at 1753 GMT. The pope immediately responds in Spanish. He thanks the president for his welcome and words. He refers to the Dominican Republic, saying that it is where the first mass was celebrated in the New World. He then conveys greetings to all Dominicans, including the poor and peasants, who love the church and practice solidarity and hospitality. The pope adds that he is convinced the men of the Dominican Republic and other nations will build a better world. He concludes speaking at 1803 GMT.

President Guzman then introduces the pope to representatives of the diplomatic corps, cabinet members, other officials and their respective wives. At 1820 GMT the announcer reports that the pope has entered the open vehicle that will take him to Santa Maria Cathedral in downtown Santo Domingo. As the motorcade leaves the airport the pope waves to the crowd, many of whom have Dominican flags and the pope's yellow and white flag.

Further Details

FL252029 [Editorial Report FL] Santo Domingo Domestic Service at 1835 GMT continues coverage of Pope John Paul's visit with special programming pending his arrival at Santo Domingo's Cathedral. The pope arrives at the cathedral at 1942 GMT and is welcomed there by Octavio Antonio Cardinal Beras, Apostolic Nuncio Juan Gravelli and other church officials. The announcer reports that the pope "offers a brief prayer" and blesses all the people in the basilica. He adds that the pope will shortly address all Dominicans and Latin Americans.

At 1952 GMT Cardinal Beras begins speaking, welcoming the pope to the "land loved by Columbus" and the cathedral. Cardinal Beras refers to historic events of Santo Domingo, such as having the first hospital and the first university in the Americas and being the place where the first mass was celebrated in the New World. We are a deeply religious people, Cardinal Beras says, but we must make an effort to translate love of God into love of our fellow men. He also calls for stability in marriage, responsible parenthood and loyalty to God. He adds that the church in the Dominican Republic needs more clergymen and integration of its members. Cardinal Beras concludes by telling the pope that he is at home in the Dominican Republic. Pope John Paul responds at 2006 GMT. Speaking in Spanish, he expresses joy over being in the cathedral, the first in America, and he thanks Cardinal Beras for his words. My only regret, he says, is that I cannot speak to each person individually.

Reception is lost at 2008 GMT while the pope is still speaking. It returns a couple of minutes later just as the pope finishes speaking. The announcer reports that the pope is now greeting cardinals who came from other countries for his visit. After this the pope gives a blessing while a group sings the pontifical hymn. The pope then boards the open vehicle that will take him from the cathedral to the apostolic nunciature, "where he will rest for approximately 1 hour," after which he will celebrate mass at Plaza de la Independencia. Continuing its coverage, Santo Domingo Domestic Service at 2023 GMT interviews Cardinal Beras on the significance of the pope's visit and his activities this afternoon and tomorrow.

Pope Departs Santo Domingo

FL261500 [Editorial Report FL] Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish at 1507 GMT on 26 January reports that, at 1507 GMT, after holding mass at the Santa Maria Cathedral and touring the poor sections of Santo Domingo city, the pope left the Dominican capital.